

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

ORDER NO. 93-600

GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR  
ON-SITE SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL SYSTEMS FOR FUEL  
SERVICE STATIONS, AUTO GARAGES, VEHICLE MAINTENANCE/WRECKING YARDS,  
MACHINE SHOPS, BUS WASHES AND CAR WASHES

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, finds that:

1. The California Water Code requires that any person discharging wastes, or proposing to discharge wastes, other than into a community sewer system, which could affect the quality of the waters of the State, shall file a Report of Waste Discharge with the appropriate Regional Water Quality Control Board. The Regional Board then shall prescribe requirements for the discharge or proposed discharge of wastes.
2. On-site subsurface wastewater disposal systems from auto garages (which include fuel service stations, auto garages, vehicle wrecking/maintenance yards machine shops, bus washes, car washes), and have caused and have the potential to cause contamination of the State's ground water resources with hydrocarbon compounds, heavy metals, and other pollutants.
3. On-site subsurface disposal systems are wastewater disposal systems which use subsurface infiltration of wastewater as a primary disposal method. Such systems include, but are not limited to, seepage pits, leach fields, mound systems (all unlined types) and evapotranspiration/absorption systems. These systems primary function are the disposal of wastewater.
4. Wastewater is defined as any water which contains pollutants as defined in Section 122.2 of CFR 40. This includes but is not limited to: domestic wastewater (toilet, sink, bath, etc.), vehicle and equipment wash water, and storm water runoff from the facilities previously mentioned in Finding No. 2, above.
5. The systems used for treatment and disposal of wastewater, as defined above, may vary in design. Domestic wastewater systems usually consist of a septic tank and disposal field (usually a seepage pit or leach field). Commercial wastewater treatment systems primarily consist of a grease trap/interceptor (oil and water separator) and a disposal field. Should any of the facilities mentioned in Finding No. 2, above, contain these systems, the facility is required to file a Report of Waste Discharge with this office.
6. Section V (B)(3) of the Guidelines for Sewage Disposal from Land Developments adopted by the Regional Board in 1984 provides for the exclusion of on-site wastewater flows less than 15,000 gallons-per-day. However, this Section is not applicable to the facilities described in Finding No. 2, above, for the following reasons:



- a. Operating such facilities may involve daily use and/or water contact with oil, solvents, grease and other substances that could pollute ground water;
  - b. If the substances listed in a above enter the ground water, contamination could adversely impact or render the water supply unusable;
  - c. Studies have shown that wastewater from domestic subsurface disposal systems at fuel service stations, auto garages, vehicle maintenance/wrecking yards, machine shops, bus washes, and car washes have the potential to adversely impact the underlying subsurface soil and ground water with hydrocarbon compounds, heavy metals and other pollutants.
7. The adoption of general waste discharge requirements for said facilities using on-site wastewater disposal would assist in:
    - a. Protecting the ground water of the State from contamination;
    - b. Identifying potential ground water pollution problems existing at this time;
    - c. Simplifying and expediting the application process for the discharger; and
    - d. Reducing Regional Board time expended on preparing and considering individual waste discharge requirements for each facility.
  8. These general requirements are intended for facilities where the ground water beneficial use and/or potential beneficial use is for municipal supply, agricultural supply and/or industrial supply, as described in the Basin Plan. Under the direction of the Regional Board's Executive Officer, these requirements would benefit the public and Regional Board staff by accelerating the review process without loss of regulatory jurisdiction and oversight.
  9. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region of California (Basin Plan) was adopted May 15, 1991 and designates the beneficial uses of ground and surface waters in this Region.
  10. Beneficial uses of ground water in the Colorado River Basin Region include: municipal supply, agricultural supply and industrial supply. Beneficial uses for individual hydrologic subareas are specified in the Water Quality Control Plan.
  11. The general waste discharge requirements are applicable to fuel service stations, auto garages, vehicle maintenance/wrecking yards, machine shops, bus washes, car washes, and any other facility with similar activities which generate and dispose any generated wastewater on-site.
  12. These general waste discharge requirements are not intended to alter or supersede existing restrictions or conditions or the preparation of specific waste discharge requirements imposed by other governmental agencies on the project.



13. These general waste discharge requirements may be adopted by the Regional Board provided that one of the following conditions exist:
  - a. In accordance with Section 15301, Chapter 3, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, the issuance of these waste discharge requirements, which govern the operation of an existing facility involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond the previously existing, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.)
  - b. The installation and operation of the private subsurface disposal system will cause a minor alteration to land as defined in the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15300.
14. To qualify for this general Order, the discharger must:
  - a. Own, operate, lease, or propose to own, operate or lease any type of commercial facility previously mentioned;
  - b. Submit a Report of Waste Discharge (Form 200) and filing fee;
  - c. Adhere to all current local, State and Federal regulations and applicable permits; and
  - d. Submit documentation that the local lead agency has satisfied the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (Chapter 3, Division 13, Public Resources Code).
15. Following receipt of a Report of Waste Discharge, the Regional Board's Executive Officer will determine whether:
  - a. It is appropriate to regulate the proposed facility under general waste discharge requirements.
  - b. No further documentation or clarification is needed; and
  - c. The wastewater disposal system appears to meet criteria necessary for protection of ground water.
16. Dischargers that submit complete applications and are determined to be subject to these requirements will be notified by the Regional Board's Executive Officer in writing. This notification will inform the discharger that their proposed discharge is subject to the requirements promulgated by the Regional Board.
17. Notwithstanding the above Findings, individual cases may be brought to the Board for consideration of waste discharge requirements when deemed appropriate by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
18. The Board has notified interested agencies and persons of its intent to adopt general waste discharge requirements for the use of on-site subsurface wastewater disposal systems at fuel service stations, vehicle maintenance/wrecking yards, auto garages, vehicle maintenance yards, machine shops, bus washes, and car washes.



19. The Board in a public meeting heard and considered all comments pertaining to this discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

A. Discharge Specifications

1. This Order shall serve as general waste discharge requirements for the discharge of wastewater to on-site subsurface wastewater disposal systems from fuel service stations, auto garages, vehicle maintenance/wrecking yards, machine shops, bus washes, and car washes.
2. All persons owning or operating facilities of the type described in Finding No. 2, above, are considered dischargers for the purpose of this Board Order.
3. All facilities referenced in Finding No. 2, above, using on-site wastewater treatment/disposal for industrial washwater shall include an industrial interceptor and/or separator trap which is accessible for cleaning and inspection.
4. All regulated disposal systems shall be readily accessible for sampling and inspection.
5. All treatment units shall be protected from storm water runoffs.
6. Odors of sewage origin shall not be perceivable beyond the limits of the individual facility.
7. There shall be no on-site disposal of septage. Any off-site disposal of septage shall be only done at a legal point of disposal, with the approval of the legal disposal site operator. For purposes of these requirements, a legal disposal site is one for which requirements have been established by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board and which is in full compliance therewith. Any septage handling shall be in such a manner as to prevent its contaminating of surface waters or watercourses.
8. No part of the subsurface disposal system shall be closer than 150 feet to any water well or closer than 100 feet to any stream, channel or other watercourses.
9. No part of the seepage pit or leach field for the disposal system shall extend to a depth where wastes may deleteriously affect an aquifer that is usable for domestic, agricultural or industrial purposes. In no case may the seepage pit or leach field extend to within 10 feet of the zone of historic or anticipated high ground water level unless otherwise approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer. Furthermore, the seepage pit or disposal field shall not lay above fractured or impermeable bedrock. The discharger must submit a technical report certifying that the seepage pits or leach fields meet this requirement. The report shall be prepared by a California Registered Civil Engineer or a Certified Engineering Geologist.
10. The subsurface wastewater disposal system(s) shall be maintained so that at no time will wastewater be permitted to surface or overflow at any location.



11. The treatment or disposal of wastewater at these facilities shall not cause pollution or nuisance as defined in Sections 13050(1) and 13050(m) of Division 7 of the California Water Code.
12. Wastewater which has a total dissolved solids (TDS) concentration greater than 400 mg/L over the TDS content of the water supply to the facility shall be discharged only to an appropriate waste management facility approved by the Regional Board Executive Officer.

B. Provisions

1. Prior to any change in ownership or management of an operation, the discharger shall transmit a copy of this Board Order to the succeeding owner/operator, and forward a copy of the transmittal letter to the Regional Board.
2. This Board Order does not authorize violation of any federal, state, or local laws or regulations.
3. The Dischargers shall submit a Report of Waste Discharge (as described in Finding No. 14) that includes the as-built construction and operation details of the subsurface system for review within 90 days after system completion.
4. These waste discharge requirements are subject to review and revision by the Regional Board.
5. Provisions of these waste discharge requirements are severable. If any provision of these requirements is found invalid, the remainder of these requirements shall not be affected.
6. The discharger shall, at all times, properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the discharger to achieve compliance with conditions of this Board Order.
7. The discharger shall provide material safety data sheets on all hazardous materials which will be handled at the facility.
8. The discharger shall comply with all of the conditions of this Board Order. Any noncompliance with this Board Order constitutes a violation of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and is grounds for enforcement action.
9. The discharger shall ensure that all site operating personnel are familiar with the content of this Board Order.
10. The discharger shall allow the Regional Board, or any authorized representatives, upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:
  - a. Enter upon the discharger's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this Board Order.
  - b. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Board Order;



- c. Inspect at reasonable times, any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Board Order; and
  - d. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purpose of assuring compliance with this Board Order, or as otherwise authorized by the California Water Code, any substances or parameters at any location.
11. The discharger shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health and/or the environment. Any such information shall be provided verbally to the Regional Board's Executive Officer within 24 hours from the time the discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submittal shall also be provided within five days of the time the discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submittal shall contain a description of the noncompliance, the cause of the noncompliance, and the period of noncompliance (including exact date and times). If the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance is also required to be reported in the written submittal. The Regional Board's Executive Officer, or an authorized representative, may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.
  12. The discharger is the responsible party for the waste discharge requirements and the monitoring and reporting program for the facility. The discharger must comply with all conditions of these waste discharge requirements. Violations may result in enforcement actions, including Regional Board or court orders, requiring corrective action or imposing civil monetary liability, or revision or rescission of this Board Order.
  13. The discharger shall comply with "Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 93-600", and future revisions thereto, as specified by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
  14. Prior to any modifications in this facility which would result in material change in the quality<sup>1</sup> or quantity<sup>2</sup> of wastewater treated or discharged, or any material change in the location of discharge, the discharger shall report all pertinent information in writing to the Regional Board and obtain revised requirements before any modifications are implemented.
  15. The discharger shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical monitoring program reports. Such reports shall be submitted in accordance with specifications prepared by the Regional Board's Executive Officer; such specifications are subject to periodic revisions as may be warranted.

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<sup>1</sup> A change in the material quality of the wastewater stream is defined as a change in the type of commercial activity, the addition of wastewater streams or other similar changes to the process which would result in a chemical parameter change within the wastewater stream.

<sup>2</sup> A significant change in the quantity is defined as a ten percent increase in the daily flow rate of the wastewater stream.

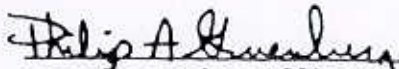


16. All monitoring instruments and devices used by the discharger to fulfill the prescribed monitoring program shall be properly maintained and calibrated as necessary to ensure their continued accuracy.
17. Unless otherwise approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer, all analyses shall be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State Department of Health Services. All analyses shall be conducted in accordance with the latest edition of "Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for Analysis of Pollutants" promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
18. The discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information including all calibration and maintenance records, copies of all reports required by this Board Order, and records of all data used to complete the application for this Board Order. Records shall be maintained for a minimum of five years from the date of the sample, measurement, or report. This period may be extended during the course of any unresolved litigation regarding this discharge or when requested by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
19. All maintenance performed will be reported with the monitoring reports as required.
20. All application reports or information to be submitted to the Regional Board's Executive Officer shall be signed and certified as follows:
  - a. For a corporation - - by a principal executive officer with at least the level of vice president.
  - b. For a partnership or sole proprietorship - - by a general partner of the proprietor, respectively.
  - c. For a municipality, State, Federal, or other public agency - - by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.
21. A duly authorized representative of the person designated above may sign documents if:
  - a. The authorization is made in writing by the person described above;
  - b. The authorization specifies an individual or person having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated disposal system; and
  - c. The written authorization is submitted to the Regional Board's Executive Officer.

Each report shall contain the following completed certification:

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

I, Philip A. Gruenberg, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, on November 17, 1993.

  
Executive Officer



CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 93-600  
FOR

ON-SITE SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL SYSTEMS FOR FUEL  
SERVICE STATIONS, AUTO GARAGES, VEHICLE MAINTENANCE/WRECKING YARDS,  
MACHINE SHOPS, BUS WASHES AND CAR WASHES

1. Sampling points shall be located where representative samples of effluent from all disposal systems can be obtained. Wastewater discharged into the subsurface disposal field shall be monitored for the following constituents:

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Type of Sample</u>	<u>Sampling Frequency</u>
Discharge Flow (Estimate)	gpd <sup>1</sup>	--	Annually
TPH (Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon for Gasoline and Diesel-DHS recommended methods)	mg/L <sup>2</sup>	Grab	Annually
Hydrogen Ion (pH)	--	Grab	Annually
Volatile Organics Compounds, (EPA Methods 601, 602)	µg/L <sup>3</sup>	Grab	Annually
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Lead	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Chromium	mg/L	Grab	Annually

The collection, preservation and holding times of all samples shall be in accordance with United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) approved procedures.

2. Records of monitoring information shall include:

- a. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements;
- b. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;

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<sup>1</sup> Gallons-per-Day

<sup>2</sup> mg/L = Milligrams per Liter

<sup>3</sup> µg/L = Microgram per Liter



- c. The date(s) analyses were performed;
- d. The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
- e. The analytical techniques or methods used; and
- f. The results of such analyses.

3. Each report shall contain the following completed certification:

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violation".

#### REPORTING

Annual reports shall be submitted by January 15th of each year to:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Colorado River Basin Region  
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

ORDERED BY:

Philip A. Guenzler  
Executive Officer

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Date